

Brighton & Lewes Beekeepers



A DIVISION OF THE SUSSEX BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER APRIL 2026

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EDITORIAL



Wild brood comb. Photo: Christopher Wren

We're itching to get into our hives, I wrote in a recent email. And so are we all. This is such a wonderful time of year, with the budding trees, flowers and shrubs all round

us, plus the sight of our charges orienting outside the hive.

But wait we must until the time is right to dive into the hive proper, find out what's been going on since autumn, and sort out any problems that might need intervention.

Like the mass of brood comb between brood frames and transparent crown board, space I had left for fondant containers, that I had to remove from my biggest colony the other day.

Bees were unhappy, to say the least, and so was I. Given that there were plenty of drones already (!), I'm expecting to see swarm cells next week...

Manek Dubash, Editor

April 2026 events

Date	Event	Location	Leader
Mon 30 March	Honey bee health: Section 8 - Poisoning	Zoom: 19.00-21.00	Jude New
Wed 8 April	Bee Chat	The Juggs, Kingston	
Wed 15 April	Oops! My bees have swarmed	Eastgate Church Hall, Lewes	Martin Hann & Clare Densley
Sat 18 April	Open hive: Disease inspection	Sat 18 April	Ian White
Sat 25 April	Open hive: Honey Bee Health group only.	Grassroots	Jude
Sat 25 April	Open hive: open to all levels	Rottingdean	Jeff Rodrigues

Bee Chats start at 19.30. Open meetings start at 19.00 for 19.30. You can find the full list of 2026 events and meetings [on the back page](#).

EVENTS

- Winter events
- Festive fare
- Wax workshop

NEXT MONTH

- Seasonal hints and tips
- Asian hornet update
- News news news!
- Latest events
- Meetings & more

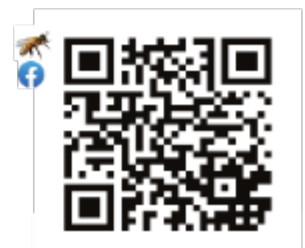
SHARE YOUR PHOTOS & STORIES

Do you have interesting photos or video links you'd like to share? Or an insight from your beekeeping that would could enhance the hobby for others? Do you have skills that could be useful to other members? Anything else you'd like to see in this newsletter?

Ideas and contributions welcome; all contact details are on the back page.

ONLINE

[B&L website](#)
[Facebook group](#)



QR link to B&L website

Notes from the Chair



Manek Dubash
Chairman

If you feel that there's not much going on, check out our spring/summer timetable, laid out on the back page. We aim to cater for all beekeepers of all abilities and experience levels.

While most of the obvious activities tend to be aimed at newer beekeepers, I'm sure I'm not alone in finding queen rearing—seen as an activity for the more experience—a bit challenging.

You need at least three hives, as two will be dedicated to the process, leaving just one for the normal honey production and general beekeeping side of things.

I lost one last month, putting it down to queen failure as the colony just dwindled

away despite varroa treatments having been applied. But I will rear queens this year: honest!

Finally a quick tip, thanks to Heidi Burgess: use this mixture for equipment



Yellow-legged Asian Hornet report



Rachel Ramaker
Asian Hornet Team
Co-ordinator

News from France

You may recall the the YLH's European incursion started in France, where measures are now, belatedly, being taken in an attempt to curb the worst predations of the invasive insect.

Residents in France are being encouraged to install Asian hornet traps in a bid to prevent the spread of the insects.

Beekeeping associations across the country aim to raise awareness of the importance of targeting the insects early, as the queen hornets prepare to create nests and lay eggs that will hatch in late spring and summer.

Beekeepers believe that 2026 will be particularly challenging, as the *Musée National d'Histoire Naturelle* warns of a unusually rapid invasion due to the mild winter, which has helped more queens survive hibernation.

The situation is especially critical in the Île-de-France (around Paris) and south-west regions, with beekeepers reporting to *Le Parisien* that the number of nests and colonies has already exploded.

Harnessing the public

APIVET83, the beekeeping association in Var (PACA), is among those urging residents to install traps in their gardens, and to do everything to avoid the proliferation of queens, including restricting their access to water in gardens.

Many associations like this are offering Asian hornet traps to local residents, either for free or for a small fee.

Residents are encouraged to use proper hornet traps rather than try to make their own, as the latter run the risk of attracting and killing all insects, as opposed to targeting the Asian hornet only.

Trapping

Francis Desmarais, president of APIVET83, is working with mairies in the region to help keep the cost of hornet traps to a minimum to assist residents' efforts.

"By setting traps early in the season, you are much more likely to kill only Asian hornets," he said, to *France Bleu*. "This is therefore the best time to trap them and prevent them from building their nests."

This is much more effective than trying to catch hornets later in the season that does not stop the insects at the source, he said. The nests start out as the size of a ping-pong ball and then "grow to the size of a handball" as the season continues, he said.

The mayor of Grainville-sur-Odon, Emmanuel Maurice, is among those to be encouraging residents to trap hornets as early as possible. "To avoid having too many in the second half of the year, the idea is to trap as many hornets as possible in the spring," he said.

Looks like we have all that to look forward to, if we're not vigilant.

Seasonal tips for April

The first inspection

At last, the first full inspection of the year! You may have been able to inspect in late March, but don't forget the rule of thumb about opening the hive: it should be warm enough to go out in shirt sleeves. So, usually you'd wait for a dry day of about 15°C or more with only a light wind.

Early in the year, it matters less what time of day you inspect, but later in the year it's best to inspect around midday when most of the adult bees are out foraging.

Experienced beekeepers have done this all before but it's worth thinking about before you get elbow-deep in your hive; you need a plan. Just take a few moments to think about why you are inspecting and what you might need—and what you might find.

Why inspect?

The queen: you want to find the queen. I know this is difficult, but it is a skill you need to learn, and learn fast. If you're lucky, she has a big spot of colour on the back of her thorax. However, the old queen may have been superseded in the late autumn and have no marking; so, what to do?

Scan each side of a frame as it's removed; start at the edges and then zigzag across the face of the comb. The queen is bigger by at least half than any other bee in the hive, has a longer abdomen and brown legs. If you fail to see her, don't despair, it will come with time. Your second option to knowing if the queen is present is to see if there is brood in all stages; eggs, larvae, and sealed cells.

If these are all present, then she's in there somewhere. Note; if you see multiple eggs in one cell then this is a sign that there may be a laying worker present in the hive and no queen.

Disease: the new beekeeper can't be expected to be able to identify all the diseases that affect bees, but they should know how to spot that something is not right. Healthy larvae should be pearly white, shiny and have clear segmentation, lying in the bottom of the cell in a tight 'C' shape.



A lovely but unmarked queen

Sealed worker cells should be biscuit-coloured (because the wax seal has been mixed with pollen to make it air permeable) and should have no noticeable holes in them. Any capped drone cells present will look similar but will be domed due to the egg being laid in a worker cell and not a cell made for drones.

If the brood pattern is any different, or there is a strange smell coming off the comb; sometimes likened to the smell of Copydex glue, then quickly seek help from your mentor or the bee inspector—see back page for contact details.

Space: It's still important to ensure there is enough space for the queen to lay. With early flowering trees and flowers in bloom, the workers need to be able to store this nectar without taking up the space the queen needs.

When the colony has expanded so that it covers both sides of about 6-8 frames, put a super on. If this is filled with new foundation it may be better to omit the queen excluder until they have started to draw out the comb.

Stores: the colony needs to be able to support itself during this period and



Smoking calms the bees—sometimes

will need about 3-4kg of stores.

A full brood frame will contain about 2-2.5kg so you will have to estimate the amount of stores distributed through the hive.

Hopefully, with a good tide and a following wind the weather will stay good, and by the end of the month there should be enough forage to see them start laying down honey for the first harvest in late June.

Opening the hive

All the literature suggests that you puff a little smoke (they're not beagles) at the entrance and wait for a minute or so before lifting the lid of the hive. The rationale is that the bees think the hive is in danger from a forest fire and, in preparation for evacuation, they load up on honey which makes them less annoyed.

Sometimes it works, sometimes it doesn't. The next technique the new beekeeper must learn is how to open the hive and remove frames in a quick, efficient manner but without any sudden movements or cracking of stuck components. Here's how.

Inspection basics

Lift the lid off the hive and place it upside down on the ground or a spare stand (it saves you bending). Gently insert the chisel end of your hive tool at a shallow angle into the joint between the crown board and the top of the brood box. Work your tool all the way around the joint until the crown board comes off. Try to avoid the crack as the propolis seal gives way.

Check the underside of the board to make sure the queen is not sitting on it; it's unlikely but bees don't read books.

Place the crown board on the roof so the corners are diagonally opposite to those of the roof.

Now, give another little puff of smoke into the hive. Working from one end/side of the brood box, gently prise the first frame/dummy board away from its neighbour.

When both sides have been freed,

Apiary reports: Grassroots



We welcomed some new members of B&L and some not so new, members at Grassroots on March 14th. The sun shone on us although it wasn't that warm. Fred had to go and get his hoodie...

We did a medical induction:

- Where the First Aid kit is on-site
- How to prepare to go to out-apiary by taking a fully charged mobile with the beekeeping kit and telling someone where we were going and approximately when we expect to be back
- Knowing the [what3words](#) reference for the apiary in the event of an emergency; it helps ambulance crew

locate someone in distress quickly.

We also spoke about what to do if stung near the hives and how to look after ourselves after being stung. Participants were asked to bring their own anti-histamine cream to the apiary in future, in case it was needed

The group was shown how to scorch an open mesh floor (OMF) and find an entrance block that fits it; not all so-called standard hives are compatible with all entrance blocks so life can get complicated when entrance blocks and their OMF become separated.

We went into the apiary where the new beekeepers were shown the hive configuration, with some entrances

facing inwards and some towards the hedge. When a group is standing around a hive, there is less likelihood of standing in front of an entrance and confusing the bees with like this and, hopefully, less chance of drifting.

The newly scorched OMF was assembled and put next to a hive. We removed the hive straps, Stephen helped me lift the brood box onto the new OMF while Serhii helped to keep the smoker alight (it had become damp, so kept going out) and helped refit the hive straps.

I will return to complete the job during the week. The OMFs at Grassroots are still buried under equipment, and I have at least two floors waiting to be cleaned, scorched and returned.

I provided a hand-out about what was considered essential equipment for beginners to read later, ready to discuss when we start our online meetings later this month. The homework is to source a bee suit. I suggested they use the Thorne site to check out the range of suits on offer, and encouraged them to order a couple of different sizes to try on at Thorne's pitch at the SBKA Bee Market in Uckfield on 8 May.

Jude New, Apiary manager

Upcoming activity: queen rearing

For those who want to plan ahead, we are offering a method of small-scale queen rearing: beekeepers of all levels are invited to come along. We will be setting up a round of queen rearing using an adaptation of the Miller Method as written by Lynfa Davis.

Last year, we raised enough queens to restock the apiary and for those who wanted to start a new colony.

New beekeepers will be able to raise queens using this method with an

option to take away a queen cell to raise for their own apiary. After using queen cells for any replacements needed in the apiary, nucs raised may be available for purchase at a below-market rate. For example, suppliers are selling over-wintered six frame nucs for around £350. Our 2026 queens will cost less.

New beekeepers may be able to set up their first apiary with a swarm if they register with Ian White our

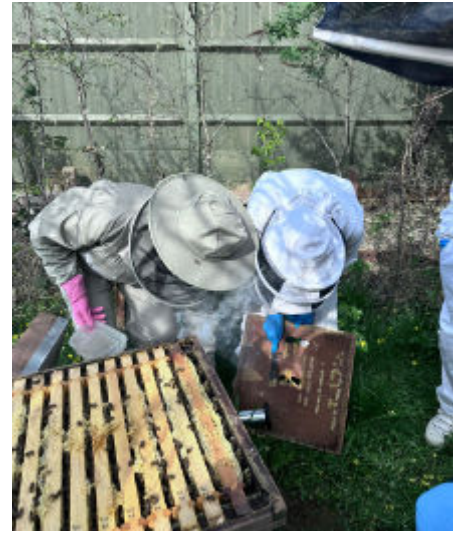
swarm co-ordinator plus a home-grown nuc from the queen-rearing courses at Grassroots and Hove.

You can register interest via [this Google form](#).

Alternatively, Adrien will be raising queens using a variation of the Ben Harden method in the second half of march at Hove watch. out for more information later.

Jude New, Training Co-ordinator

Apiary reports: Hove



First 2026 visit to our Hove apiary, managed by Adrien Parker. Photos by Mim. There's many more of Mim's lovely photos on the Hove apiary sub-group of our WhatsApp Buzz group.

Apiary reports: Rottingdean

We're almost ready for the season.

Ivana, her husband David (*chef-patron* at Petit Pois in the Lanes), Jill, Julie and I spent a few hours with heavy tools and a lot of bending and scraping on a wonderful, warm spring morning earlier this week.

Site prep

We wanted to achieve three things: hack back the brambles to the fence, thin out the tree cover to let in more sunlight and reduce the risks of the

steeply sloping wood.

Ivana and Jill and Julie cleared masses of lianas of bramble until the hitherto invisible fence began to emerge. David removed one tree and thinned out the branches of several others.

Together, we laid four new concrete slabs on which to stand when going up to the hives. The apiary still looks and feels quiet and private but once inside

continued overleaf..



2026 B&L Honey Show date and venue confirmed

The 2026 B&L Honey Show 2026 is scheduled for Saturday 3 October at [Patcham Memorial Hall](#).

Save the date and volunteer to help by stewarding on the day. Jobs include advertising the event, and creating a poster for local shops, libraries and community centres. Anyone creative enough to take that challenge on?

Task roster

- Collecting, cleaning and displaying the trophies, we could do with at least one steward for this.
- Donating cake for the refreshment stall (contact Ross)
- Donating plants for the plant stall (contact Joy)
- Donate Beekeeping books for our book stall (contact Ian White)

- Help to register and display the exhibits in the morning of the Honey Show. We could do with at least two more stewards for this.

Schedules and classes

The schedule is work in progress at the moment.

We have booked a judge for the photography section. There are plans to introduce a small Junior Class, and a Gadget Class for inventions that make beekeeping easier will also be available.

We are setting up some stalls and perhaps a demonstration station. The stalls will be selling potted indoor and outdoor plants donated by members, B&L honey, beekeeping books some ex-library and some donated. Contact Ian White if you have beekeeping

books to donate. The demonstration is likely to be something beeswax related.

Does it sound interesting? Come along, bring some friends to see what we do and buy plants, books, slices of cake and honey!

Depending on the number of entries, some exhibits may be delivered the evening before the event. The hall will be open for exhibits to be delivered on the morning of 3 October, judging will take place mid-morning and the hall will be open to the public for sales of cakes, honey, beekeeping books and plants in the afternoon and the trophies will be awarded before close of day.

[Contact Jude](#) if you can help.

Jude New, Events Co-ordinator

Apiary reports: Rottingdean (continued)

our work had opened it out to a much more airy space.

The surviving colonies—losses this year were 50%—look busy and full.

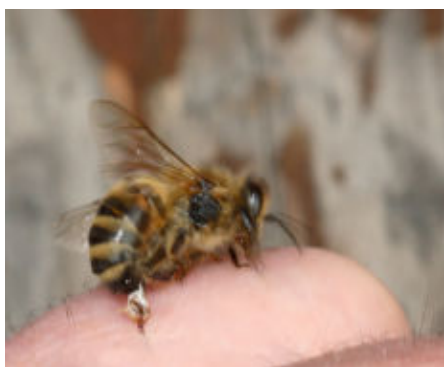
Early inspection

On the warmest day, I took a look at the double-brood box poly nuc in my garden which I've been nursing over the winter. It's a good two degrees

warmer than up at the apiary in the wood. You can see the pleasing laying pattern and colour in the photo.

Jeff Rodrigues, Apiary Manager

Anatomy of a bee sting



I had my first proper bee sting for years this week—a bee got into my veil—so I thought newsletter readers might be interested in knowing how the sting works.

The bee's sting mechanism is in its final segment. When the bee stings us, the sting cannot be withdrawn because its barbs face backward. As the bee pulls away, the seventh segment is pulled out of her abdomen, remains in the flesh and the bee dies.

The bee has 10 clusters of brain



Photos (above): Waugsberg (Wikipedia)

cells in each of its ten segments (the last three are tucked into the seventh segment). These are called ganglia and mainly control motor functions.

Brainy stinger

When the sting in your flesh is left by the departing bee, the ganglion attached to the sting which is attached to you continues to work. It does two things: first, it keeps the two parts of the piercing bits—lancets—moving up and down, thus using the backward facing barbs to push the sting deeper and deeper into the skin; second, it uses this movement to scoop venom out of the venom sac and push the venom into a groove in the lancets.

How does it work?

So, when you are stung, get rid of the sting device asap, but don't use tweezers or you might squeeze in more venom.

The sting device needs to be at right angles to your skin to penetrate effectively. The bee achieves this by curving its abdomen downwards until the lancets are at 90 degrees to the skin surface. and then uses her stomach and leg muscles to make the penetration.

Swarming bees usually fill their stomachs with nectar/honey before they leave the hive, which is why most of them can't sting: their full abdomens can't curve down enough.

Venomous analysis

What is it in the venom that causes swelling and pain? How does it spread? There are quite a few compounds to venom but the four

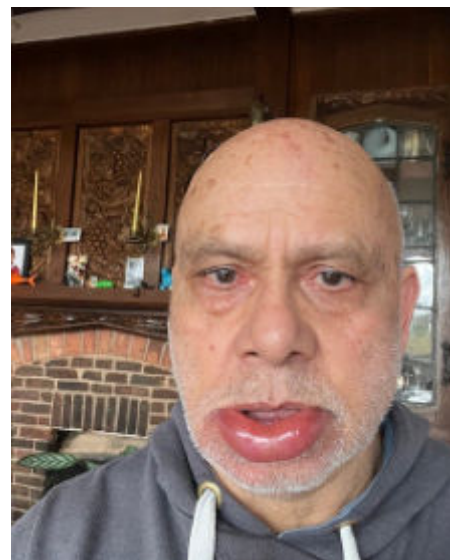
main ones are:

- melittin: which ruptures the blood cell, depresses BP and cause swelling and pain
- phospholipase: an enzyme that works synergistically with melittin to help cell breakage
- hyaluronidase: another enzyme, digests cell tissue and facilitates venom diffusion
- MCD: an histamine that stimulates an immune response.

The stinging causes the emission of a pheromone that attracts other bees to commit harikiri at the sting site.

My veil prevented that but it also prevented me getting to the sting site in time to remove the sting. And because human lips are mucus membrane...it hurt quite a bit for about ten minutes.

Jeff Rodrigues



Selfie: Jeff Rodrigues

Meeting report: Chris Park on apitherapy



Chris Park talking mead, skeps and drinking from his horn

Oh man! The talk on apitherapy on 18 March was absorbing.

Who knew that honey and hive products have been known to man for centuries? Ancient Greeks, Romans, Chinese and Indian civilisations, to name but a few, have known of the healing powers of hive products and written of their healing powers.

Chris even said that honey dressings are used in hospitals today to heal wounds that chemical dressings have failed to treat.

We were given so much information about honey, wax, propolis, royal jelly and bee larvae that my head was spinning by the time we were scheduled to have our tea and cake!

There will be more information to follow about the apitherapy talk.

Apitherapy exposed

More specifically, Chris talked generally about apitherapy, which prevents and deters conditions and diseases. Everything from the hive is medicine, he said, such as propolis and venom. He described it as tested science, not complementary.

Chris reckoned you should not believe Wikipedia which says these substances don't have scientific proof for use as medicine. It's complex, intelligent medicine, he said, as

propolis and other bee medicines are anti-viral, anti-bacterial, anti-inflammatory.

To buttress his argument he went into the etymology of words like mead, medicine, and miel (French for honey).

And it's good to eat too, such as honey pollen and brood being food—for some, perhaps.

From the past

Honey hunting very old, at least 6,500 years ago people used beeswax and propolis to fill tooth cavities.

Ayurveda is ancient medicine, as is meadowsweet, and willow, these herbal remedies provide pain relief, and can be hallucinogenics.

- The Sumerians 3,500 years ago used honey as medicine.
- On the Nile, people used crocodile dung mixed with honey as contraceptive.
- Babylonians offered honey to the gods as medicine.
- In China they made honey pills. They used mead as medicine.

There's lots of history around the world of the use of hive products as medicines and remedies.

Recent apitherapy

Honey, water and labour make mead.

Ingredients included mixed/ground dead bees, and that is good for baldness—and a good diuretic.

He mentioned the Beck & Smedley book: *Honey & Your Health*.

Brezhnev was treated for facial palsy with bee stings.

During the Covid pandemic, China surveyed Wuhan local beekeepers, and found that the use of bee venom resulted in them being asymptomatic.

In some parts of Africa, people eat bee brood for energy and health.

Bee colonies contain negative ions, like, waterfalls and the sea, which are good for you. Chris said he made a bee bed: a hive under the bed, a bee bedroom. So beekeeping is good for your mental health too; it makes you calm.

Bee pollen is a aphrodisiac, good for



your immune system. Bee bread, processed by bees, is best. Honey can be used as toothpaste, good for gums, completely different from sugar. Improves kidneys, liver. Royal jelly is good for the blood.

Homework: eat brood—your perception will change after eating a larva.

Bee venom therapy needs care in case of legal repercussions: you need a live bee sting, for lupus and arthritis. When you are stung, it's "a beautiful moment".

The meeting was held over Zoom, and unfortunately, Chris had been unable to share his presentation. And the meeting ended during questions when the wifi collapsed.

Nonetheless, there was much to talk about—and as always, Ross was there with tea, cakes and biscuits, so many thanks to the generous providers of such wonderful comestibles.

Next meeting

This was the penultimate winter 2025/26 meeting; the next one is on Wednesday 15 April, in Lewes, when we will hear Martin Hann & Clare Densley on post-swarm actions.

Jude New & Manek Dubash

From hobby to business



Selling honey, bees or hive products? Could CASCA help you?? If you have several colonies and are thinking about how to make more of an income from your bees....then [CASCA](#) could be helpful for you.

CASCA (Commercial and Semi-Commercial Apiarists) is a new division of [BIBBA](#) (Bee Improvement and Bee Breeders Association). It's specifically aimed at beekeepers with several years of experience, with 'a few' colonies but belong to the group between the hobbyists (beekeeping for fun) and bee farmers—you need to run 50 or more colonies to earn that title.

CASCA's target audience includes anyone who sells their honey or hive products through a regular outlet—

even if that is from your front door—and aims to help beekeepers run viable businesses while enjoying doing it: laudable aims!

First meetings

I attended one of the several introductory days held at Pulborough recently, and spent several very useful hours considering aspects of upping my beekeeping game in a series of wide-ranging talks from three excellent speakers, including Roger Patterson, who has been instrumental in forming this group, together with Kevin Thorn and Carl Colyer.

Topics covered ranged from costing your produce; creating nucleus colonies for sale; taxation and the pros and cons of setting up as a Limited

Company and getting VAT-registered even for a small enterprise; and how to market hive products.

There were also some thought-provoking presentations—for instance—how to outsource the parts of the production/selling process you don't enjoy. So if you hate spinning honey from 20-odd hives twice a year, there are ways around it.

Another off-the-wall idea for extreme efficiency in avoiding transport/sticky mess in the kitchen was to take a portable extractor to the hive, extract honey hive-side and return the frames immediately back to the bees. Apparently, this works well—I feel I might have to try this just to see.

How to join

Register for CASCA using the links above for no additional cost apart from BIBBA membership and gain access to lots of advice and experience.

Jude New

2026 Sussex BKA Bee Market: stallholders wanted

 <p>SUSSEX BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION'S</p> <h1>BEE MARKET</h1> <h2>MARKET STALL HOLDERS WANTED</h2> <p>WHEN: SATURDAY 9TH MAY 2026 10:00-1500</p> <p>WHERE: UCKFIELD COMMUNITY COLLEGE, DOWNSVIEW CRESCENT, UCKFIELD, EAST SUSSEX, TN22 3DJ</p> <p>STALL FEE: £20 FOR ONE 6 FOOT TABLE</p> <p>ALL TYPES OF CRAFTERS WELCOME, DOES NOT HAVE TO BE BEE RELATED</p> <p>WE ARE INVITING STALL HOLDERS TO APPLY FOR A TABLE NOW TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT NEARER THE DATE.</p> <p>PLEASE SEE NEXT PAGE FOR MORE INFO AND HOW TO APPLY</p>	 <h2><u>MORE INFO</u></h2> <p>SUSSEX BEEKEEPERS HAVE FOR MANY YEARS RUN THEIR ANNUAL BEE MARKET TO CELEBRATE ALL THINGS RELATING TO BEES AND POLLINATORS. WE MOVED TO UCKFIELD COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN THE YEAR OF 2023 TO ACCOMMODATE THE MANY STALL HOLDERS WHO NOW JOIN US.</p> <p>THERE IS A LOT GOING ON THROUGHOUT THE DAY TO ENSURE AN INTEREST FOR BEEKEEPERS AND NON-BEEKEEPERS ALIKE. INCLUDING SALE OF EQUIPMENT, A LIVELY AUCTION OF EQUIPMENT, CHILDREN'S TALK AND ACTIVITIES, AND A PLANT STALL TO NAME JUST A FEW OF THE MANY STALL HOLDERS WHO REGULARLY JOIN US.</p> <p>THE POPULAR EVENT ATTRACTS PEOPLE FROM EAST AND WEST SUSSEX AND FURTHER AFIELD.</p> <p>FOOD STALLS HAVE ACCESS TO AN ADJOINING TERRACED AREA.</p> <p>PLEASE EMAIL STUART ON S_WALTER@SKY.COM TO RECEIVE THE APPLICATION FORM</p>
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Spring/summer events

Date	Event	Location	Leader
Mon 30 March	Honey bee health: Section 8 - Poisoning	Zoom: 19.00-21.00	Jude New
Wed 8 April	Bee Chat	The Juggs, Kingston	
Wed 15 April	Oops! My bees have swarmed	Lewes	Martin Hann & Clare Densley
Sat 18 April	Open hive: disease inspection	Barcombe	Ian White
Sat 25 April	Honey Bee Health group only	Grassroots	Jude
Wed 25 April	Open hive: disease inspection	Rottingdean	Jeff Rodrigues
Sat 16 May	Open hive: swarming	Rottingdean	Jeff
Sat 16 May	Open hive: swarming	Grassroots	Jude
Sat 30 May	Open hive: swarming	Barcombe	Ian White
Sat 13 June	Open hive: swarming and starving	Rottingdean	Jeff
Sat 13 June	Open hive: swarming and starving	Grassroots	Jude
Sat 25 June	Open hive: honey production	Hove	Adrien Parker
Sat 25 June	Open hive: honey production	Grassroots	Jude

Bee Chats

- 19:30 in a pub

Open meetings in Lewes

- From 19:00 for 19:30, Eastgate Church Hall, Eastgate Street, Lewes BN7 2LR

Newsletter deadlines

Please send all contributions, **including photos**, to the Editor (contact details on the right). Max length 500 words.

Copy deadline: 18th of the month before publication date, except 11 December. Email photos for the website to Gerald Legg (details on the right).

National Bee Unit Inspectors

Seasonal Bee Inspectors

Daniel Morgan
daniel.morgan@apha.gov.uk
 07500 954 390

Helen Hadley
helen.hadley@apha.gov.uk
 07871 320 316

B&L newsletter's award certificate



We are grateful to the following for their support:



Lewes Town Council



Managed by the Community Development Foundation
 Funded by the Office of the Third Sector

Co-operative Membership
 Community Fund

Contacts

President: Norman Dickinson

Chairman: Manek Dubash
chair@brightonlewesbeekeepers.co.uk / 07788 923557

Hon Secretary: Mat Budgen
matbudgen@hotmail.com
 07776 468513

Treasurer & Membership Secretary: Graham Bubloz
treasurer@brightonlewesbeekeepers.co.uk / 07758 866278

Training Co-ordinator: Jude New
newapiary@hotmail.com

Events Secretary: Jude New
meetings@brightonlewesbeekeepers.co.uk / 07875 895285

Newsletter Editor: Manek Dubash
editor@brightonlewesbeekeepers.co.uk / 07788 923557

Librarian: Alasdair Nicol
librarian@brightonlewesbeekeepers.co.uk / 07939 689356

Swarm Co-ordinator: Ian White
swarms@brightonlewesbeekeepers.co.uk / 07999 987097

Asian Hornet Team Co-ordinator: Rachel Ramaker
blbka.ahat@gmail.com
 07762 312592

Webmaster: Gerald Legg
gerald@chelifer.com

Apiary Managers
 Barcombe: Ian White
 Grassroots: Jude New
 Hove: Adrien Parker
 Rottingdean: Jeff Rodrigues

B&L Facebook Group
 Group Administrator: Graham Bubloz
facebook@brightonlewesbeekeepers.co.uk / 07758 866278

Sussex BKA Representatives: Ian White & Manek Dubash

National Honey Show Rep: Vacant

Disclaimer: Brighton and Lewes Division of the Sussex Beekeepers Association cannot accept any responsibility for loss, injury or damage sustained by persons in consequence of their participation in activities arranged by the Division.